

HOUSE No. 1409

By Mrs. Owens-Hicks of Boston, petition of Shirley Owens-Hicks and others for legislation to provide for the installation of bi-directional amplifier systems in certain buildings to provide for emergency communications between public safety and medical personnel. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Shirley Owens-Hicks	Brian P. Wallace
Thomas M. Menino	Elizabeth A. Malia
Martin J. Walsh	

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OF IN BUILDING EMERGENCY
RADIO SYSTEMS IN HIGH RISE BUILDINGS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 148 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding
- 2 the following new section at the end thereof:—
- 3 Section 60. Any building of more than 120 feet in height shall
- 4 install a bi-directional amplifier system to provide adequate radio
- 5 coverage for emergency radio systems including but not limited to
- 6 fire, police and emergency medical services radio systems. Plans
- 7 for installation of the bi-directional system must be submitted
- 8 within 6 months of approval of this section to the head of the local
- 9 fire department for approval. The bi-directional amplifier system
- 10 shall be installed within six months after approval of the local fire
- 11 department.
- 12 For purpose of this section, adequate radio coverage shall
- 13 include all of the following:
- 14 (1) A minimum signal strength of one (1) microvolt (-95dBm)
- 15 available in 95% of the area of each floor when transmitted from
- 16 the Public Safety Agency;

17 (2) A minimum signal strength of one (1) microvolt (-95dBm)
18 received at the Public Safety Agency from 95% of the area of
19 each floor of the building; and

20 (3) The frequency range must support the emergency radio sys-
21 tems including but not limited to fire, police and emergency med-
22 ical services radio systems and have a 95% reliability factor.

23 Buildings and structures which cannot support the required
24 level of radio coverage shall be equipped with any of the
25 following in order to achieve the required adequate radio cov-
26 erage: a radiating cable system or an internal multiple antenna
27 system with or without FCC type accepted bi-directional UHF
28 amplifiers as needed. If any part of the installed system or systems
29 contains an electrically powered component, the system shall be
30 capable of operating on an independent battery and/or generator
31 system for a period of at least twelve (12) hours without external
32 power input. The battery system shall automatically charge in the
33 presence of an external power input.